

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): The printing machine according to claim 3 9, wherein said ~~compensation elements have a gripper system which, in order to compensate for a speed difference between two printing unit groups and to correct the position of the printed sheets,~~ is arranged parallel to said surface of said first transfer cylinder and axially displaceably on said first transfer cylinder.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~The printing machine according to claim 8,~~ wherein A printing machine for printing sheet material, the printing machine comprising:

at least two printing unit groups having drives decoupled from one another and assigned, respectively, to one printing unit group, and having printing units with transfer cylinders;

a dynamic control device for transferring printed sheets; and

compensation elements for compensating for a speed difference and a positional error between two printing unit groups, said compensation elements being assigned to a first transfer cylinder of a printing unit group being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of actively moving a sheet with respect to a surface of said first transfer cylinder;

said compensation elements having a gripper system, said gripper system includes including a dynamic actuator and a gripper bar for picking up the printed sheets, the position of said gripper bar being displaced by said actuator at constant radius in a peripheral direction on said surface of said first transfer cylinder in accordance with the speed difference.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The printing machine according to claim 9, wherein said actuator is an element selected from the group consisting of piezoelectric and magnetostrictive elements.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The printing machine according to claim 8, wherein said transfer cylinders of said printing unit groups have an arrangement by which, after a printed sheet has been accepted by said gripper system of said

first transfer cylinder, the printed sheet is fixed only at one location in said accepting printing unit group.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The printing machine according to claim 9, wherein said gripper bar is axially displaceable in the direction of the axis of rotation of said first transfer cylinder for correcting the position of the printed sheets.

Claim 13 (original): A method of transferring printed sheets in a printing machine, which comprises determining a difference in speed between two decoupled printing unit groups, and displacing a gripper system parallel to the surface of a cylinder during the sheet transfer so as to compensate thereby for the difference in speed between the printing unit groups on a first transfer cylinder of an accepting printing unit group.

Claim 14 (original): The method according to claim 13, which includes determining a positional error of the printed sheet on the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group, and correcting the position of the printed sheet parallel to the cylinder surface and axially displaceably on the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group.

Claim 15 (original): The method according to claim 13, which includes having the dynamic control device register the operating parameters of the printing unit groups before the printed sheet is transferred, determine differences in speed and control the compensation elements in a compensatory manner during the sheet transfer.

Claim 16 (original): The method according to claim 13, which includes having the dynamic control device register the position of the printed sheet on the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group after the sheet transfer, and control the compensation elements in a corrective manner after the sheet transfer.

Claim 17 (original): The method according to claim 13, which includes completing the positional correction before the sheet transfer to the second cylinder of the accepting printing unit group.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 13, which includes, in a first step, wherein a difference in speed is compensated for, displacing the actuator parallel to the cylinder surface of the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group; in a second step, having the

gripper system of the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group accept the printed sheet from the preceding printing unit group; in a third step, registering the position of the printed sheet and, if necessary, determining a positional correction; in a fourth step, having the actuator make the positional correction on the first transfer cylinder of the accepting printing unit group; in a fifth step, having the actuator moved into a rest position for the printed sheet transfer to the second cylinder of the accepting printing unit group; and in a sixth step, moving the actuator back into the initial position thereof after the printed sheet transfer to the second cylinder of the accepting printing unit group.